

Minutes
CRIMINAL JUSTICE PARTNERSHIP
ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
May 17, 2006

Board Members Present: Chairperson Lao Rubert, Carolina Justice Policy Center; Marcia Owen, Victim Services; Robin Odom, NC Department of Labor; Craig Brown, District Court Judge; Carolyn Titus, Deputy County Manager; Joseph Anthony, Criminal Defense Attorney; Ann McKown, District Court Judge; Lafonda General, Member At Large; Riley Butler, Community- Based Corrections Program; Wes Crabtree, Office of the Sheriff; Kevin Hutchinson, Member At Large; Michael Nifong, District Attorney; Michael Page, Durham County Commissioner

Board Members Absent: Gayle Harris, Health Department; Geoffrey Hathaway, Community Corrections; Fredericka Carver, Member At Large; Antoinette Hilliard, Public Defender's Office; Kenneth Titus, Superior Court Judge; Ellen Holliman, Mental Health

Staff: Gudrun Parmer, Jo Iverson, and Jonie Coss

Guests: Theron Dennis, Community Corrections; Conrad Strader, CJPP Coordinator

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Lao Rubert, members and guest introduced themselves. Lao welcomed everyone.

Lao Rubert presented February 15th minutes for approval. Minutes were approved.

Program Numbers – Jo Iverson presented program numbers from July 2005 through April 2006 by briefly highlighting the DRC numbers. She included in the report a comparison to last year's numbers. She pointed out the termination status for Second Chance, with 51% being removed by program staff and 17% removed for probation violation. There was some discussion on the termination rate. Gudrun stated she would ask Geoff Hathaway to look at the terminations for July, Aug and Sept. and tell us what happened to those cases. She stated she would bring that information back to the board. Lao also added she would bring the DOC report to the next board meeting.

Judge McKown brought a concern to the board on Court Services screenings. There was a brief discussion about client records, screening, and assessments. She suggested it might help if a sub-committee was appointed to look into the need of keeping records and what information needs to be kept in that record.

CJPP Update – Gudrun stated the CJRC received an additional reallocation grant in the amount \$3,450 and would be used for a laptop, network printer and software. Gudrun explained the CJPP grant amount had changed and the CJRC had to revise the budget for FY 07 to include the increase of \$1,700. She detailed the breakdown of the funds and how the funds would be used. Gudrun presented an overview of referrals sources to the DRC and Reentry program. She stated, 43% come from the court, and 34% of the CJPP clients come from the parole commission. About 1/3 of the clients were post release. She stated, 21% of the referrals were probation violations and the overall completion rate for the DRC and Reentry program was at 34%.

Employment Services - Gudrun presented a brief update of the employment program, stating 46% of clients, who exited the program, either maintained or obtained employment while they were at the CJRC. She stated a large majority of them were DRC clients. She spoke briefly on the Career Development program and explained how the program worked. She added the numbers of participants were growing.

Gudrun announced the City of Durham and the Durham County Commissioners approved the Annual Housing plan and in that plan the CJRC had applied for a Community Development Block Grant in the amount of \$69,606. She stated the grant was approved and the CJRC would now be able to continue the Going Home Initiative's Repair Project. Gudrun explained how the program would work. She stated it would now be called Project Restoration.

Memorandum of Understanding - Gudrun informed the board that CJRC and the Durham Center were currently negotiating next year's Memorandum of Understanding. She stated both agencies were very pleased with this past year's agreement and initial results.

Pretrial Services Report – She briefly went over the numbers for Pretrial Services and detailed each item on the report. There was discussion on the Court's process and how so many different databases and records were being used. Lao suggested it would be helpful if each part of the process could communicate with other parts of the process. Lao suggested a sub-committee form to look further into the process. Judge Brown and Judge McKown agreed and both volunteered to be on the sub-committee. Mike Nifong would try and get someone from his office. Gudrun recommended that someone from the Clerk's Office and the Public Defender's office should also be included. Judge Brown volunteered to talk with someone from the Clerk's Office and Gudrun stated she would call the Public Defender's office.

State CJPP Update – Conrad reported that he attended the State Leadership meeting. He stated they reviewed the grants for CJPP and they were all approved. He added they also went over the reallocation grants and Division II received a little over \$31,000. He stated the State Board Meeting would be held in Boone and he would present the grants to the State Board for approval. Conrad informed the board the completion rate for Division II was at 37% for the first 10 months. He stated they were currently looking at redefining some of the terms that were used when closing out a case.

DRC / TASC Update– Gudrun stated all DRC clients had to be assessed by TASC in order to be eligible for state funded drug treatment. She explained that since CJPP funded a Substance Abuse Counselor position, CJRC's treatment program was considered state funded and thus TASC was required to authorize treatment for DRC clients. She added the current referral system was reviewed and a new referral process was created. Gudrun explained the new process in detail mentioning that there may be a one week time lapse before a client would start treatment. Lao raised concern over the delay in treatment and how that would affect the client. There was discussion on the new process.

Update on other Initiatives

Going Home Initiative – Gudrun explained the GHI would end this fiscal year. The local cluster members have discussed continuing the efforts and are exploring various opportunities and avenues.

Drug Treatment Court – Gudrun mentioned there was discussion at the last CJPP board meeting regarding the level of treatment that CJRC could provide for DTC clients in the coming fiscal year. She stated after some deliberations it was decided that CJRC would continue serving DTC and would provide a Substance Abuse Counselor for the treatment team. Gudrun mentioned DTC would also expand their provider network and not send all their clients to the CJRC.

DJJDP / GCC Gang Initiative – Gudrun informed the board that Durham would receive \$184,000 over the next two years and a request for proposals had been posted through the local JCPC. The solicitation was for a Street Outreach Worker and a targeted outreach program for gang involved juveniles.

Other Business – Lao mentioned that as a result of the “Community Programs that Work” Conference in April, a bill had been introduced to provide more funding to help community programs get back to previous funding levels. She stated all programs had experienced funding cuts in some way or another. She hoped the board would give Gudrun the authority to write letters to legislators if needed, stating this board supported this bill. Lao pointed out an error in Section 2 of the bill, where it stated “appropriated to the Dept of Health and Human Services”, indicating it should say “appropriated to the DOC”. Lao asked the board if there were any objections to writing the letters in support of this bill. There was no objection.

Lao thanked all members and visitors for attending and informed the board the next meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, August 16th.

Meeting adjourned at 2:30 pm